

Message Text

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ACTION SY-02

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ARA-06 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-06

CIAE-00 IO-03 CPR-01 DRC-01 RSC-01 /040 W

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P R 161840Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6986

INFO US SECRET SERVICE WASHDC

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 2470

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC OVIP (WILLIAMS, ERIC) TD

SUBJECT: SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRIMIN WILLIAMS VISIT TO UNITED
STATES

REF: POS 2451

1. DURING AMB'S PRESENCE IN TOBAGO, GOTT MINISTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY PADMORE CALLED DCM TO MINISTRY OCT 16 TO DISCUSS SECURITY FOR FORTHCOMING TWO-STAGE VISIT OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO PRIME MINISTER DR. ERIC WILLIAMS TO THE USA (REFTEL).

2. PADMORE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR EXCELLENT SECURITY PROVIDED FOR DR. WILLIAMS' EARLIER VISIT THIS YEAR, BUT STRESSED PM'S DESIRE FOR SOMEWHAT LESS OSTENTATIOUS COVERAGE. GOTT RECOGNIZES USG RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT PRIMIN WHILE IN USA AND DOES NOT WISH TO INTERFERE WITH NECESSARY SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS, BUT REQUESTS THAT SECURITY DETAIL BE INSTRUCTED TO BE SOMEWHAT LOWER KEY IN ITS ACTIVITIES AND ALSO MORE RESPONSIVE TO KEY OFFICIALS IN PM'S PARTY. IN ADDITION TO GENERAL REQUEST FOR LESS OSTENTATION, SEVERAL SPECIFIC GUIDELINESS AND REQUESTS WERE CONVEYED BY MINISTER PADMORE:

3. COORDINATION WITH PM'S PERSONAL SECURITY OFFICER--WILLIAMS'
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OWN SECURITY OFFICER ACCOMPANYING PARTY WILL BE MR. PHILBERT

HINDEMAN, ASSISTED BY MR. LENNOX NIMBLETT. US SECURITY DETAIL SHOULD COORDINATE FULLY WITH HINDEMAN AND RECOGNIZE THAT PM WILL EXPECT HINDEMAN PERSONALLY ALWAYS TO BE IN HIS VEHICLE, ETC. UNLESS OTHER ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN SPECIFICALLY AGREED TO.

4. STAFF ACCESS--IN ORDER TO AVOID PROBLEMS FOR PM'S ACCOMPANYING PARTY IN GAINING READY ACCESS TO HIM, GOTT IS ISSUING SPECIAL IDENTIFICATION CARDS TO MEMBERS OF TRAVELING PARTY. US SECURITY DETAIL MAY WISH TO AUGMENT THIS BY ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE LAPEL BUTTONS OR OTHER DEVICES WHICH WILL REDUCE FRICTION WHICH OCCURS WHEN US SECURITY APPEARS TO INHIBIT CONTACT BETWEEN WILLIAMS AND HIS IMMEDIATE PARTY.

5. ATTENTION TO SENIOR MEMBERS OF PARTY--PM WILL NOT WISH HIS VEHICLE DISPATCHED ANDDD WHISKED AWAY, FOR INSTANCE, UNTIL HE KNOWS THAT HIS SENIOR CABINET MINISTER (MAHABIR) IS ALSO TAKEN CARE OF. SAME WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE TRUE ON THIS TRIP OF PM'S DAUGHTER ERICA, WHO WILL ACCOMPANY. FULL DELEGATION LISTING FOLLOWS BY SEPTTEL, BUT HIGH OFFICIALS WHO MAY BE EXPECTED TO RELAY INSTRUCTIONS ON BEHALF OF PM DURING TRIP INCLUDE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSRY ERROL MAHABIR AND FONOFF PERMANENT SECRETARY FRANK ABDULAH.

6. PRIVATE VS. PUBLIC OCCASIONS--AT TIMES, PRIMIN WILL BE VISITING FRIENDS OR FRIENDS OF HIS DAUTHER ERICA. ON SUCH PERSONAL OCCASIONS HE HOPES SECURITY CAN BE IN ESPECIALLY LOW KEY CONSONANT WITH NON-PUBLIC NATURE OF OCCASIONS.

7. MINISTER MAHABIR (WHO WILL BE ACCOMPANYING) MENTIONED SECURITY IN SIMILAR VEIN INFORMALLY TO AMBASSADOR SEVERAL DAYS AGO. FORMAL FOLLOW-UP BY MINISTER OF DEFENSE INDICATES CLEAR SIGNAL FROM PRIME MINISTER THAT HE DESIRES SECURITY DETAIL TO REMAIN SOMEWHAT MORE IN BACKGROUND AND BE AS FLEXIBLE AS POSSIBLE UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES.

8. MINISTER PADMORE INDICATED THAT HE WILL BE IN CONTACT WITH AMBASSADOR EARLY NEXT WEEK TO CONFIRM THAT ARRANGEMENTS REQUESTED ABOVE HAVE BEEN FACILITATED. THEREFORE REQUEST EARLY CONFIRMATION THAT EVERY REASONABLE EFFTRT WILL BE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE PM'S WISHES.

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9. ITINERARY DETAILS FOLLOW BY SEPTTEL.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PORTO02470
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740294-0692
From: PORT OF SPAIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741044/aaaablgp.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SY
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: POS 2451
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUL 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <18 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRIMIN WILLIAMS VISIT TO UNITED STATES
TAGS: ASEC, OVIP, TD, (WILLIAMS, ERIC)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005